



# ABHIMANYU

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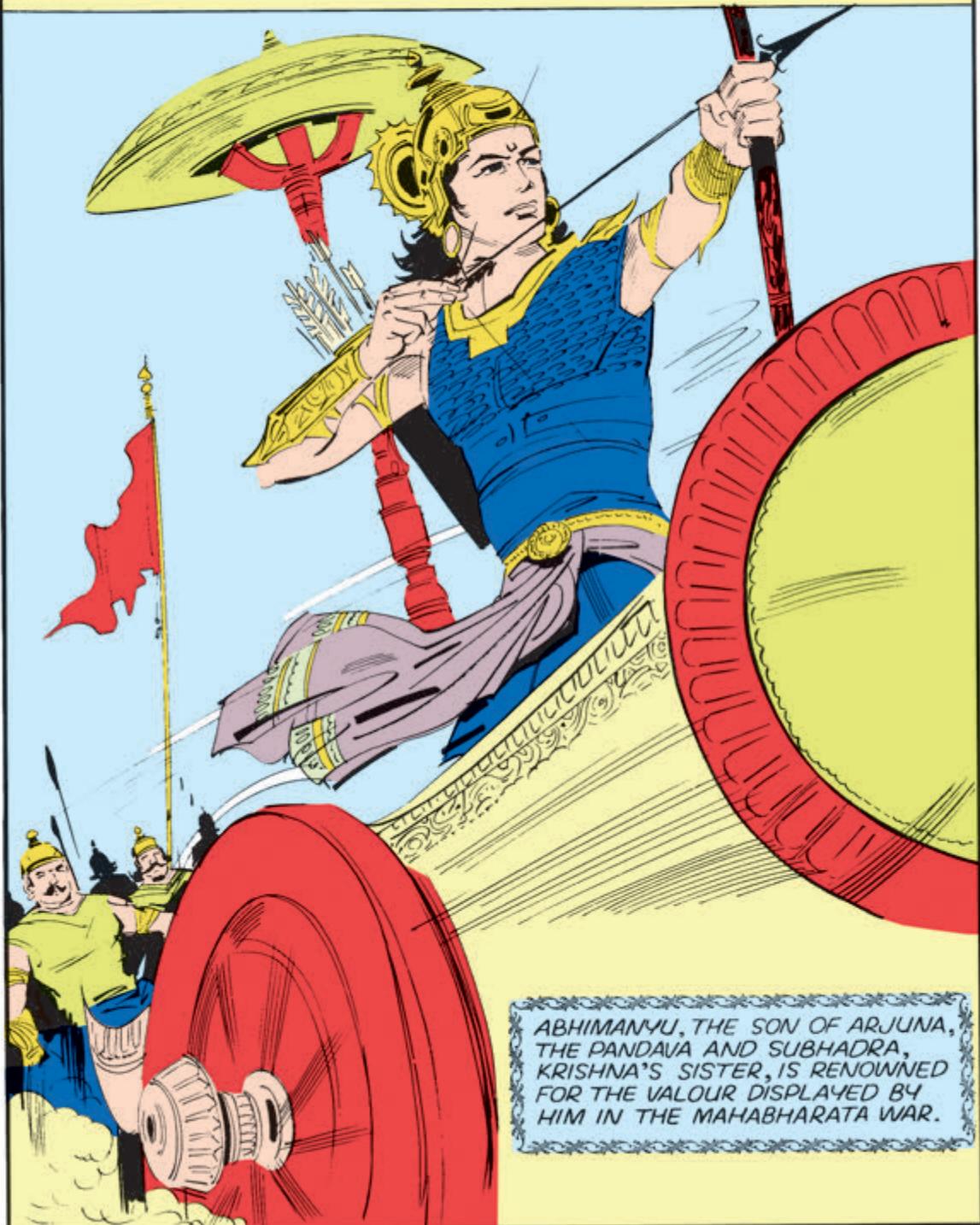
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# ABHIMANYU



ABHIMANYU, THE SON OF ARJUNA, THE PANDAVA AND SUBHADRA, KRISHNA'S SISTER, IS RENOWNED FOR THE VALOUR DISPLAYED BY HIM IN THE MAHABHARATA WAR.

HIS FATHER, ARJUNA COULD NOT HELP LOVING HIM MORE THAN HIS OTHER SONS.



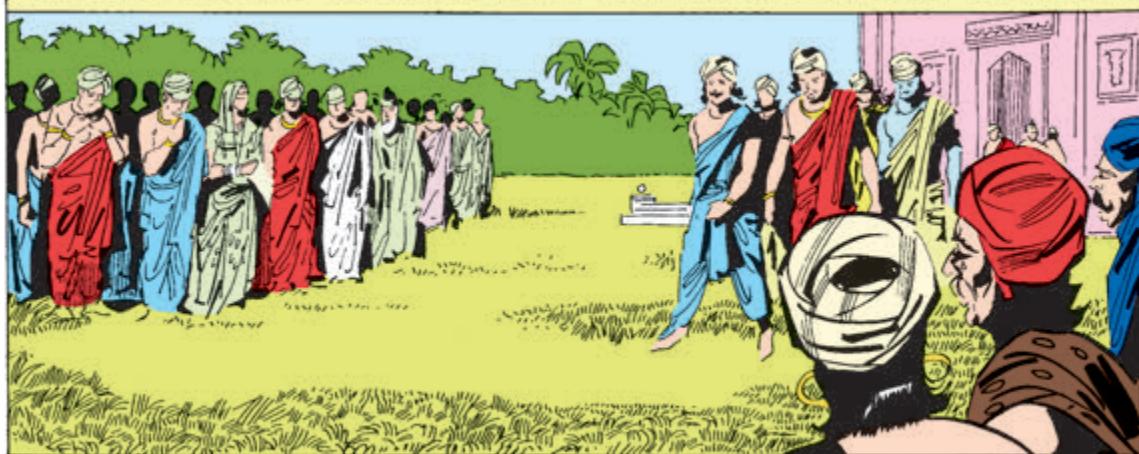
BUT ALAS! MISFORTUNE SOON BEFELL THE PANDAVAS WITH THEIR COUSINS, THE KAURAVAS, PLOTTING AGAINST THEM.



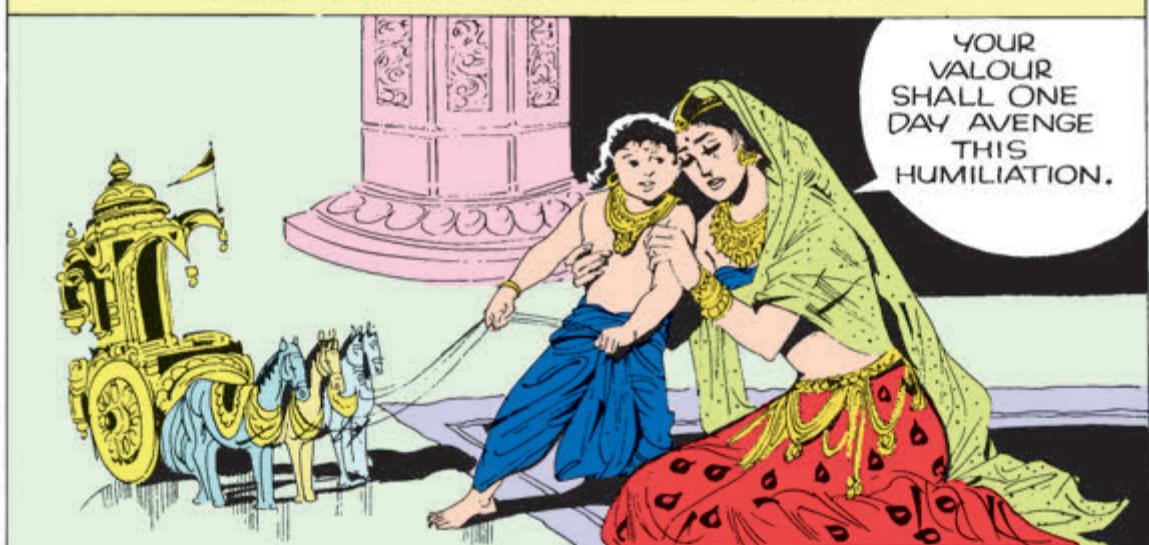
THE KAURAVAS CARRIED OUT THEIR WICKED PLOT.



THE PANDAVAS SET OUT FOR THE FORESTS WITH THE SORROWFUL CITIZENS WHO HAD GATHERED TO BID THEM FAREWELL, IN ATTENDANCE.



ABHIMANYU WAS A MERE CHILD WHEN THESE EVENTS TOOK PLACE. BUT HE WAS WELL LOOKED AFTER BY HIS MOTHER.

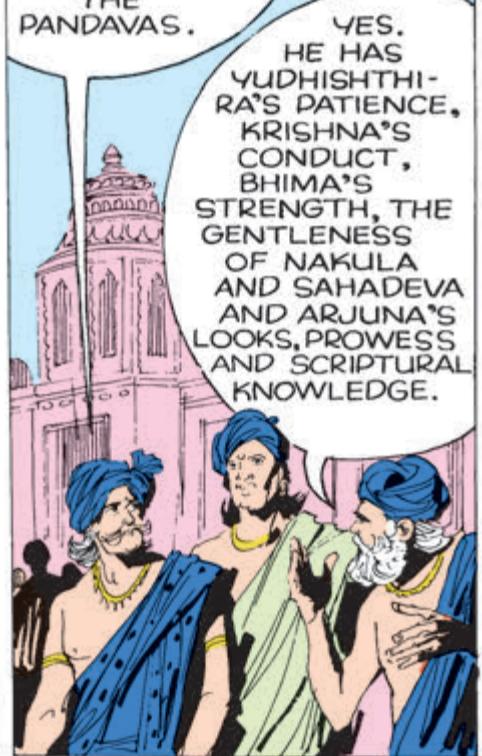


HE GREW UP TO BE A VALIANT YOUTH AND KRISHNA'S FAVOURITE NEPHEW.

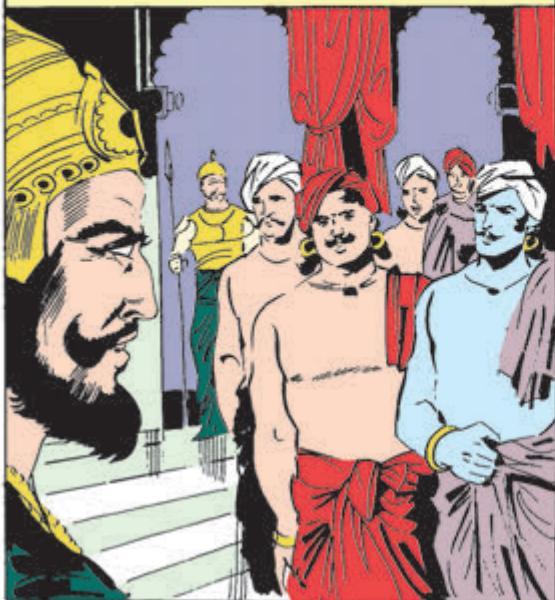


HE WAS LOVED AND ADMIRED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM.

ABHIMANYU HAS INHERITED THE QUALITIES OF KRISHNA AND THE PANDAVAS.



MEANWHILE THIRTEEN YEARS HAD PASSED. THE PANDAVAS WERE AT THE COURT OF KING VIRATA, IN DISGUISE AND IN THE LAST YEAR OF THEIR EXILE.

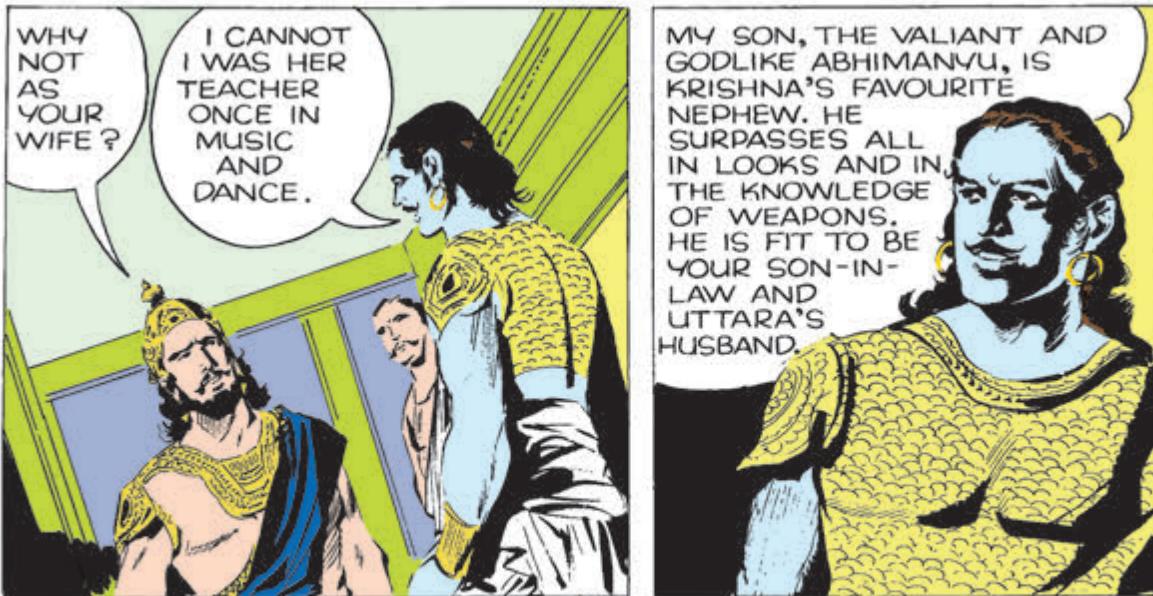


WHILE THERE, ARJUNA HELPED VIRATA'S SON UTTARA TO TRIUMPH OVER A KAURAVA ATTACK.



AFTER ARJUNA AND UTTARA RETURNED FROM THE BATTLE, THE PANDAVAS DISCLOSED THEIR IDENTITY TO VIRATA.





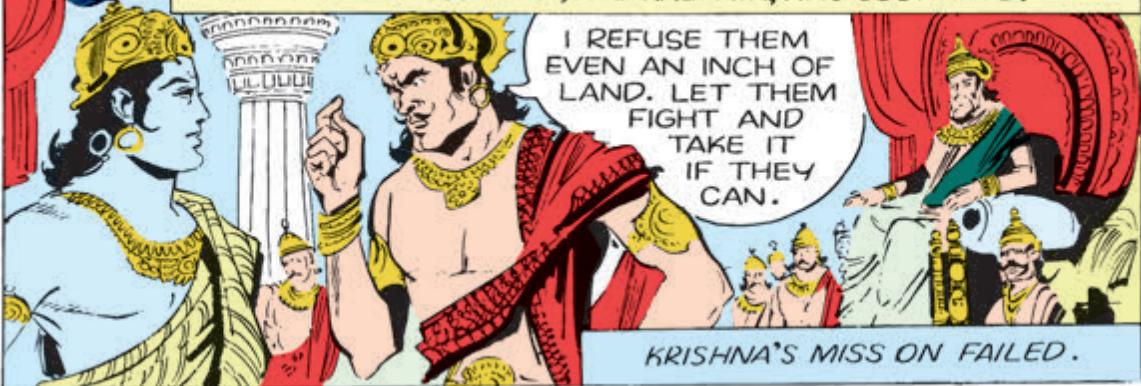
THE WEDDING OF ABHIMANYU AND UTTARA WAS SOLEMNISED AMIDST GREAT FEASTING AND REJOICING. IT WAS ATTENDED BY A HOST OF FRIENDLY KINGS OF NEIGHBOURING KINGDOMS.



AFTER THE WEDDING THE PANDAVAS HELD A COUNCIL.



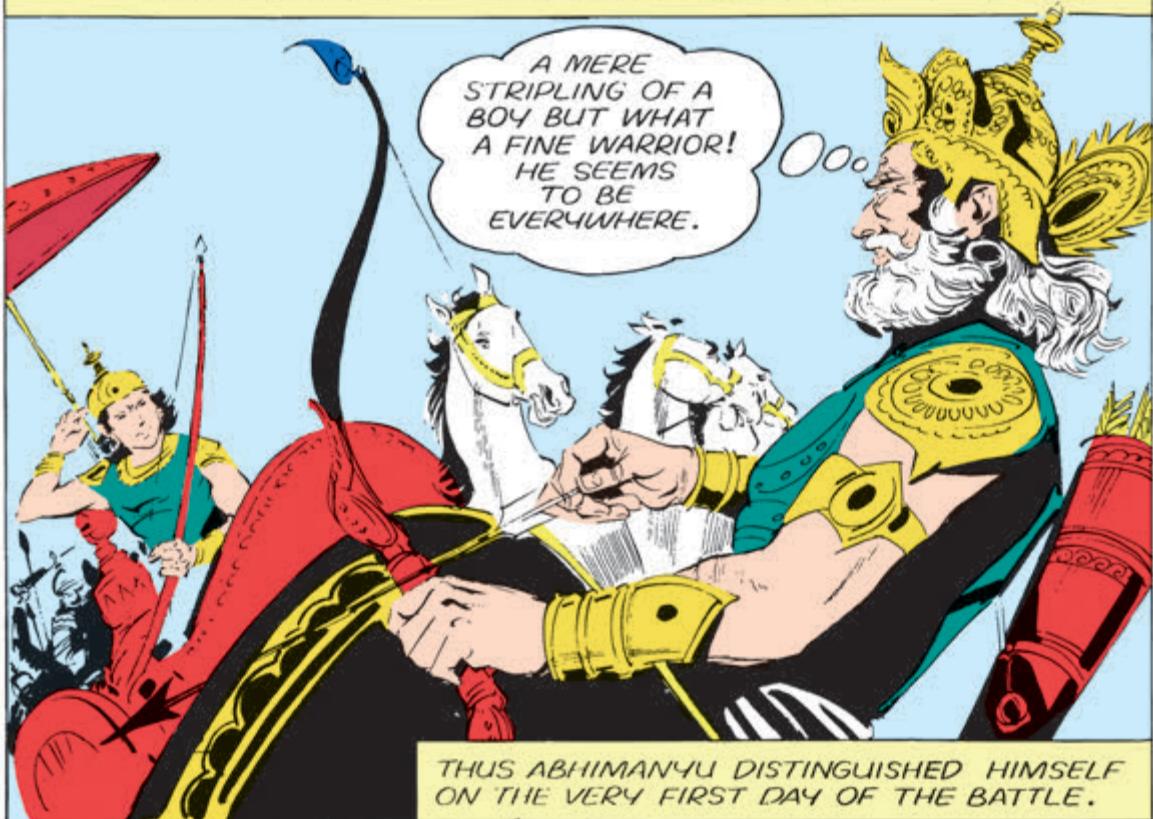
BUT KING DURYODHANA, THE KAURAVA, WAS OBSTINATE.



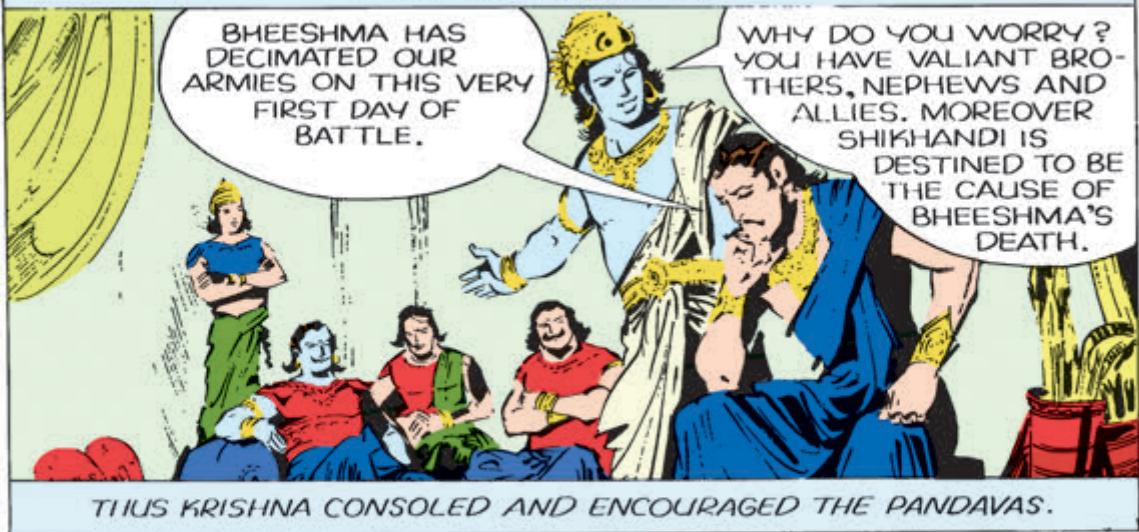
AND IT WAS WAR BETWEEN THE PANDAVAS AND THE KAURAVAS - THE TERRIBLE WAR OF THE MAHABHARATA - IN WHICH PRACTICALLY ALL THE KINGS OF THOSE TIMES FOUGHT, AS ALLIES, ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER.



ABHIMANYU WHEN HE HEARD THIS CHARGED UPON BHEESHMA.



SOON OTHER WARRIORSCAME TO RELIEVE HIM AND BHEESHMA TURNED HIS ATTENTION TO THEM. BUT THE FIRST DAY WAS A BAD ONE FOR THE PANDAVAS. THAT NIGHT -



ON THE SECOND DAY, THE KAURAVAS INTOXICATED BY THEIR EARLY VICTORY, WERE OVER CONFIDENT AND CARELESS. TILL -



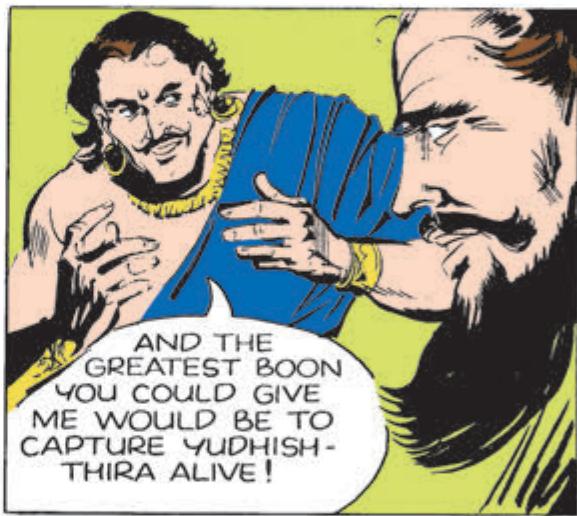
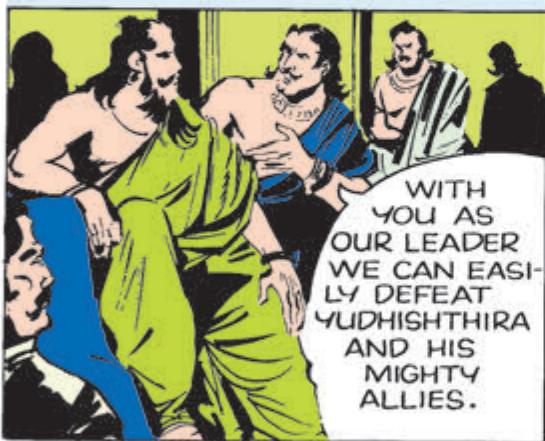
SO THE BATTLE WENT ON, SOMETIMES FAVOURING THE PANDAVAS, SOMETIMES THE KAURAVAS.



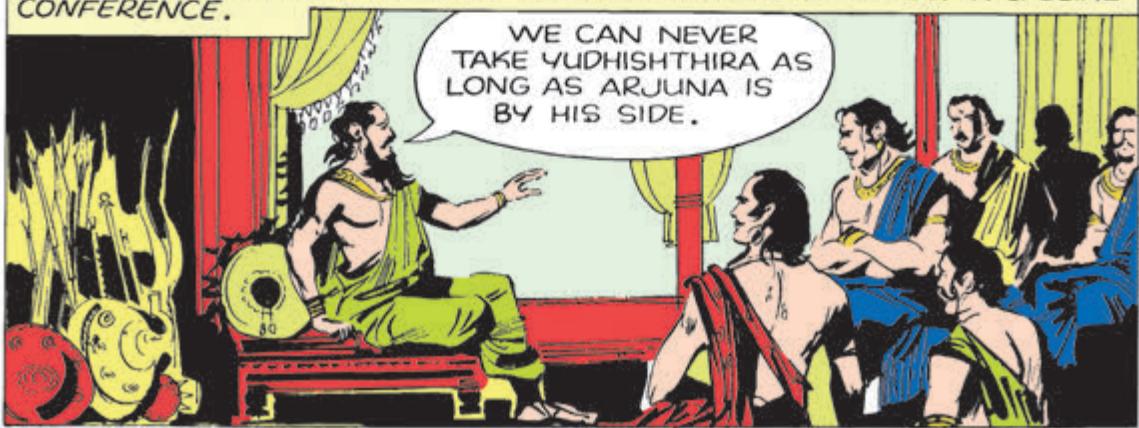
TILL AT LAST ON THE TENTH DAY BHEESMA FELL, AT THE HANDS OF ARJUNA SHIELDED BY SHIKHANDI.



DRONA WAS MADE COMMANDER OF THE KAURAVA ARMIES.



DRONA TRIED BUT FAILED. THAT EVENING THE KAURAVAS HELD A SPECIAL CONFERENCE.



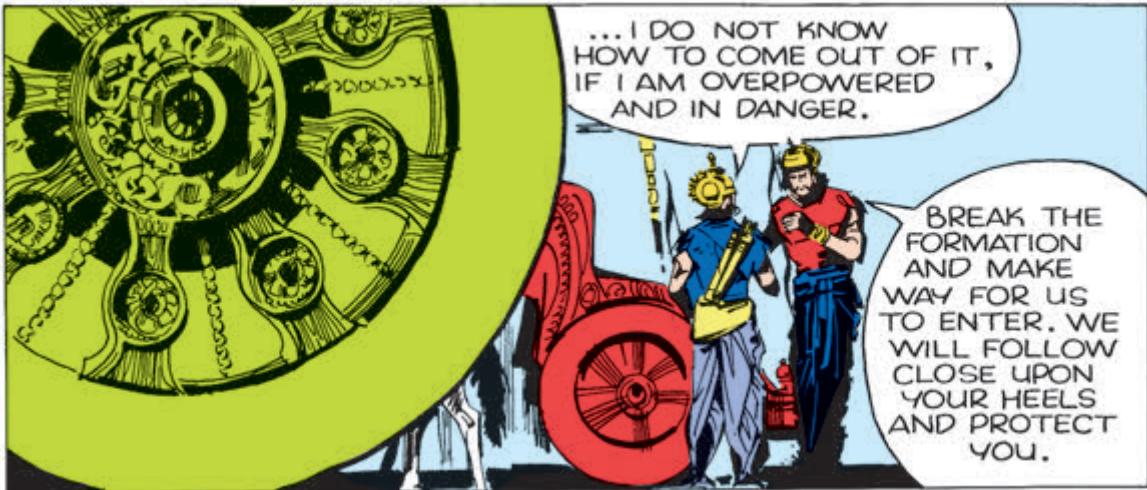


THE PLOY WAS SUCCESSFUL. ARJUNA WAS DRAWN AWAY, AND DRONA ATTACKED. THE ATTACK WAS SO FIERCE THAT THE PANDAVAS WITH ARJUNA AWAY, WERE LOSING GROUND.



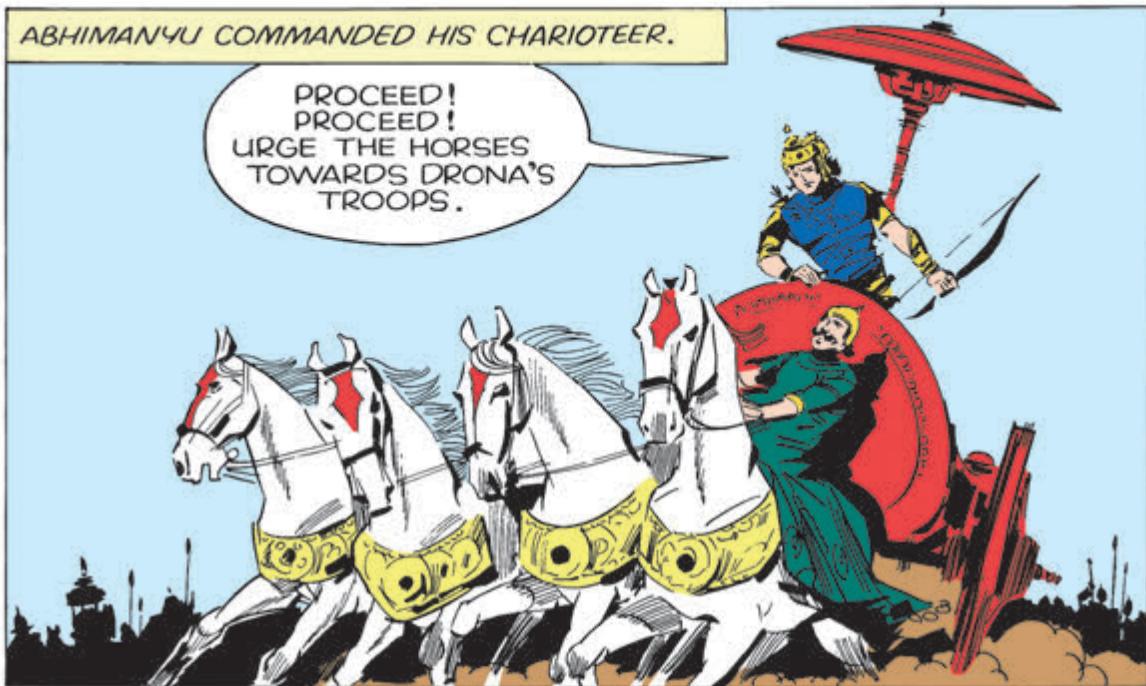
AT LAST YUDHISHTHIRA APPROACHED ABHIMANYU, PLACING THE BURDEN ON HIS YOUNG SHOULDERS.





ABHIMANYU COMMANDED HIS CHARIOTEER.

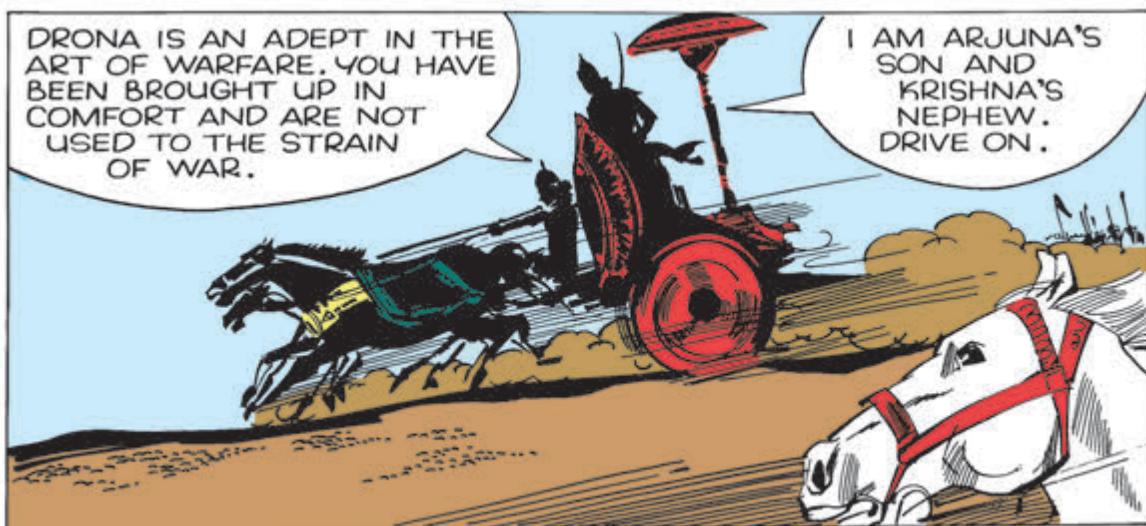
PROCEED!  
PROCEED!  
URGE THE HORSES  
TOWARDS DRONA'S  
TROOPS.



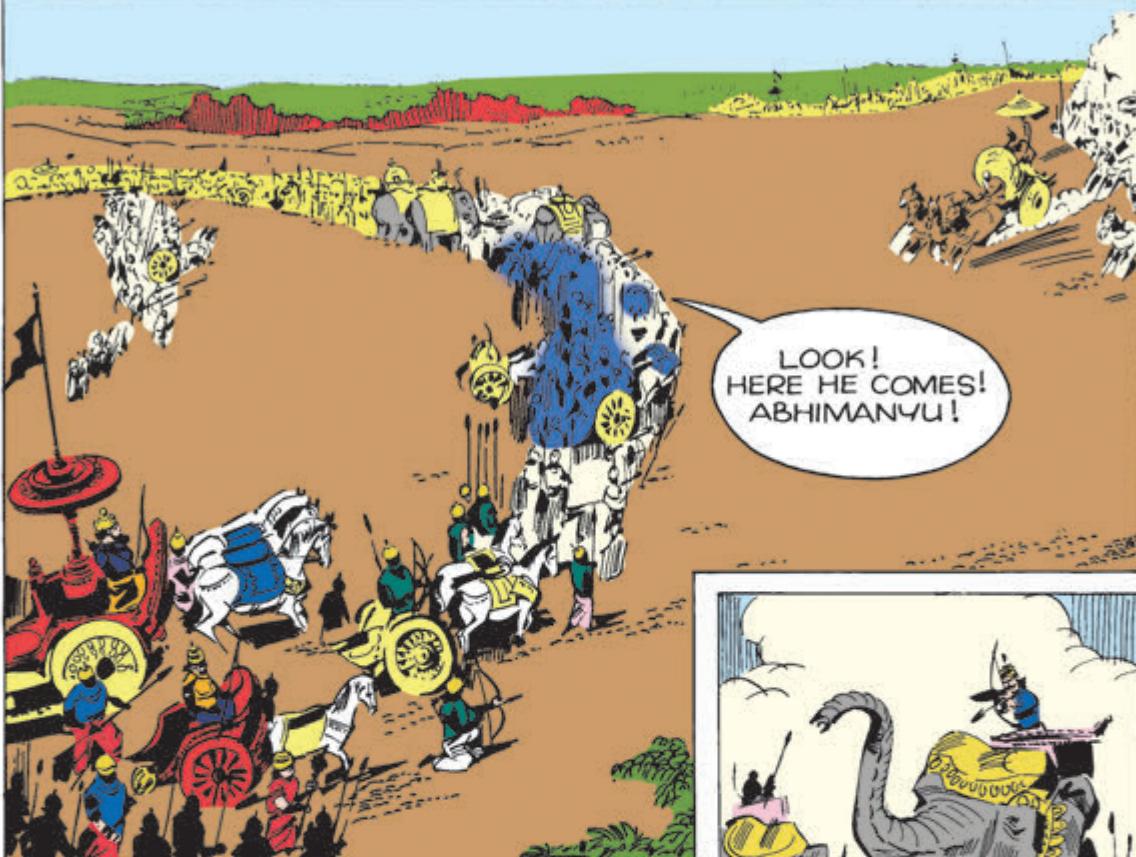
THE  
PANDAVAS  
HAVE  
PLACED  
A HEAVY  
BURDEN ON  
YOU TODAY.  
THINK WELL  
BEFORE  
YOU  
PROCEED.

DRONA IS AN ADEPT IN THE  
ART OF WARFARE. YOU HAVE  
BEEN BROUGHT UP IN  
COMFORT AND ARE NOT  
USED TO THE STRAIN  
OF WAR.

I AM ARJUNA'S  
SON AND  
KRISHNA'S  
NEPHEW.  
DRIVE ON.



THEY REACHED DRONA'S ARRAY WITH THE PANDAVAS AND THEIR ALLIES FOLLOWING CLOSE BEHIND.



THEN LIKE A PROUD YOUNG LION FALLING UPON A HERD OF ELEPHANTS, ABHIMANYU RUSHED AT DRONA.



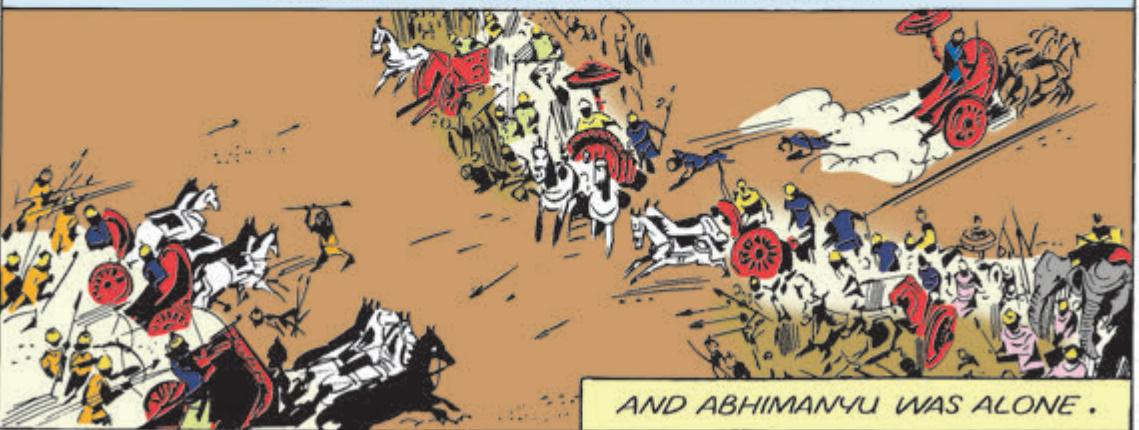
THE HEROES FOUGHT ON AND THE TROOPS SLAUGHTERED ONE ANOTHER.



WHILE THE TERRIFYING BATTLE RAGED, ABHIMANYU, BREAKING THE CIRCULAR ARRAY, ENTERED IT UNDER THE VERY NOSE OF DRONA.



BUT ALAS FOR HIM, BEFORE THE PANDAVAS AND THEIR WARRIOR COULD FOLLOW HIM, THE BREACH WAS EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY CLOSED BY JAYADRATHA.



AND ABHIMANYU WAS ALONE.

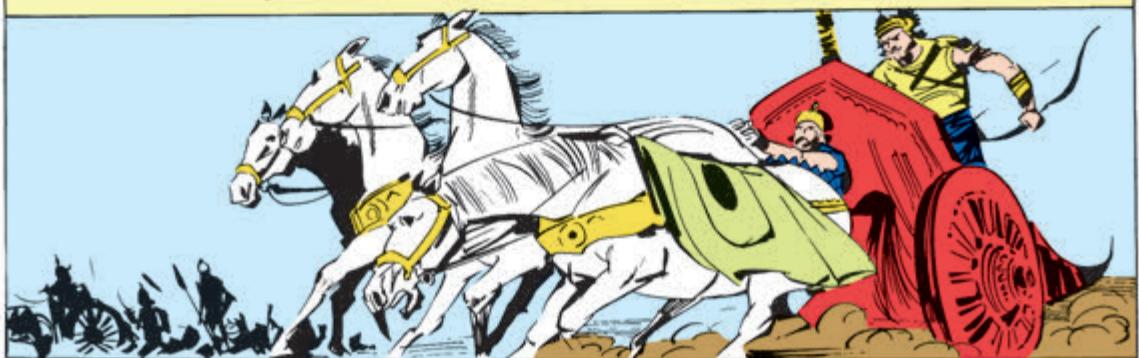
BUT HE FOUGHT BRAVELY AND FELLED THE KAURAVA WARRIORS, COVERING THE EARTH WITH THEIR MUTILATED BODIES.



THE KAURAVA TROOPS TERRIFIED BY THIS ONSLAUGHT, TRIED TO FLEE ON CHARIOTS AND ELEPHANTS FORSAKING THEIR WOUNDED KINSMEN AND FRIENDS.



WHEN DURYODHANA SAW HIS ARMY BEING THUS ROUTED BY ABHIMANYU, HE WAS FURIOUS AND RUSHED TOWARDS HIM.



DRONA WAS ALARMED.

SAVE THE KING!  
ABHIMANYU KILLS  
ALL MEN HE AIMS AT.  
AND NOW HIS AIM IS  
ON THE KING OF  
THE KAURAVAS.



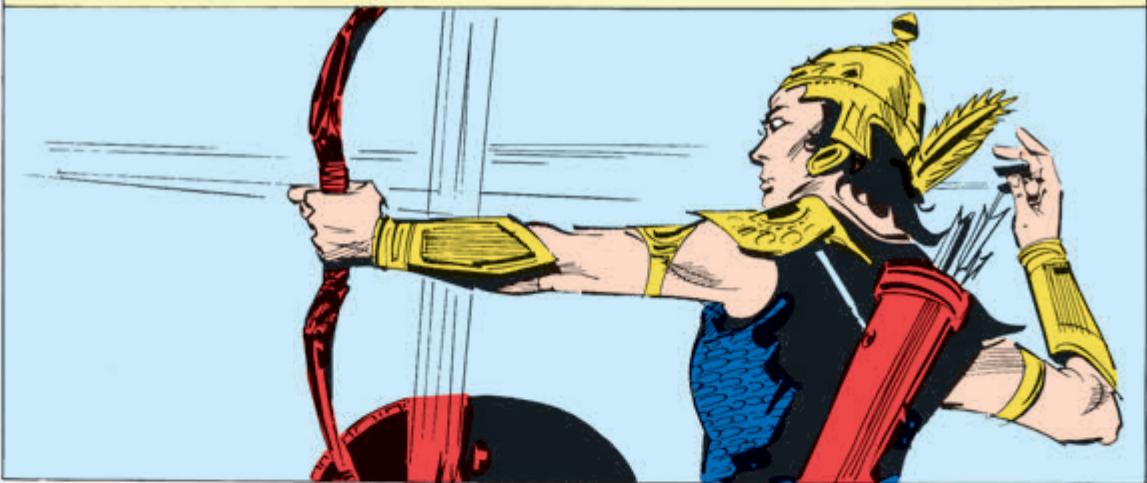
A GREAT NUMBER OF WARRIOR IMMEDIATELY WENT TO DURYODHANA'S RESCUE.

AND SUCCEEDED IN DRAWING HIM AWAY.

BUT ABHIMANYU WAS ENRAGED WHEN HE FOUND HIS PRIZE TARGET BEING SNATCHED AWAY.



HE VENTED HIS ANGER ON THE WARRIOR WHO HAD PROTECTED DURYODHANA.



FORGETTING THE CODE OF WAR CONDUCT, A NUMBER OF WARRIOR, LED BY DRONA, JOINTLY ATTACKED YOUNG ABHIMANYU.



IT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL THEIR ADVANCES. BUT A SHOWER OF ARROWS FROM ABHIMANYU'S BOW HELD THEM.



ONE OF THE WARRIOR, ASMAKA, RUSHED HIS CHARIOT AT GREAT SPEED TOWARDS ABHIMANYU.



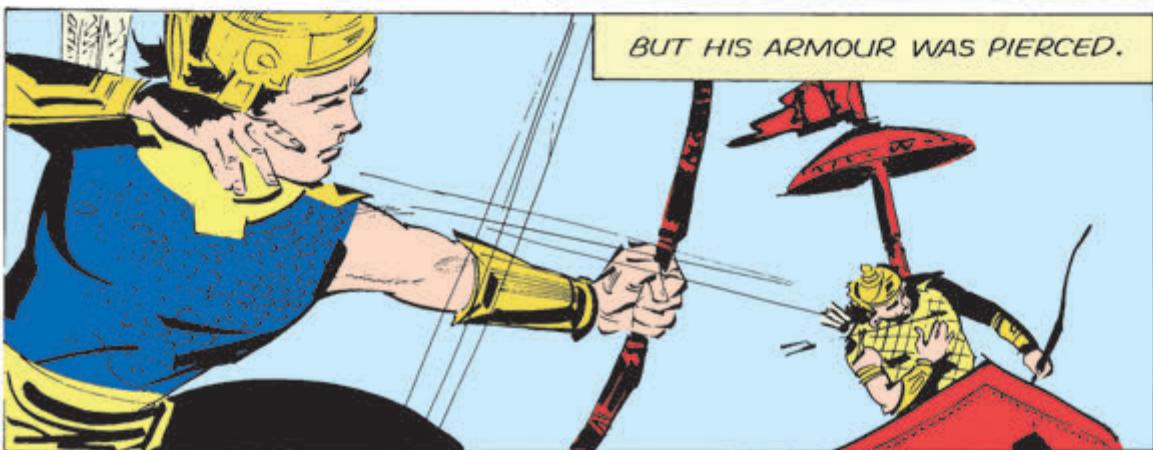
ABHIMANYU'S ARROW KILLED HIM.



KARNA THEN MADE A DASH TOWARDS ABHIMANYU.



BUT HIS ARMOUR WAS PIERCED.



ABHIMANYU THEN WOUNDED SHALYA SO BADLY THAT THE GREAT WARRIOR COULD NOT EVEN MOVE FROM HIS SEAT.



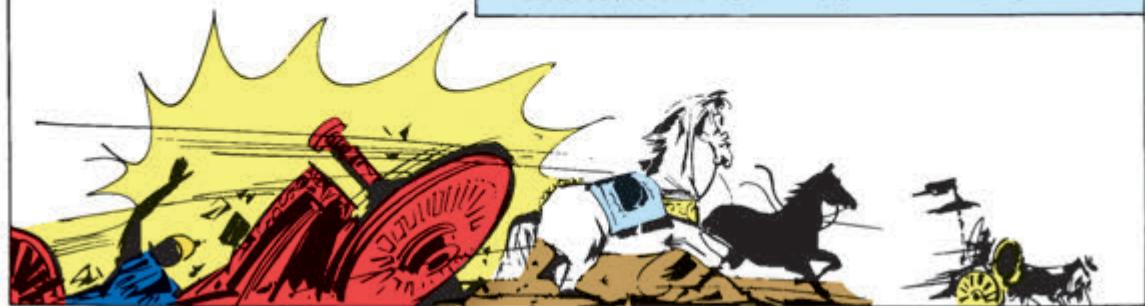
SHALYA'S BROTHER RUSHED FORWARD.



ONE SINGLE ARROW FROM ABHIMANYU'S BOW...



...BROKE HIS CHARIOT TO PIECES.



SO GREAT WAS THE SKILL DISPLAYED BY ABHIMANYU THAT EVEN DRONA WHO LED THE ATTACK, ADMIRE HIM.

HE STANDS UNEQUALLED AS A BOWMAN. IF HE WISHES HE CAN WIPE OUT THIS WHOLE HOST, SINGLE-HANDED.



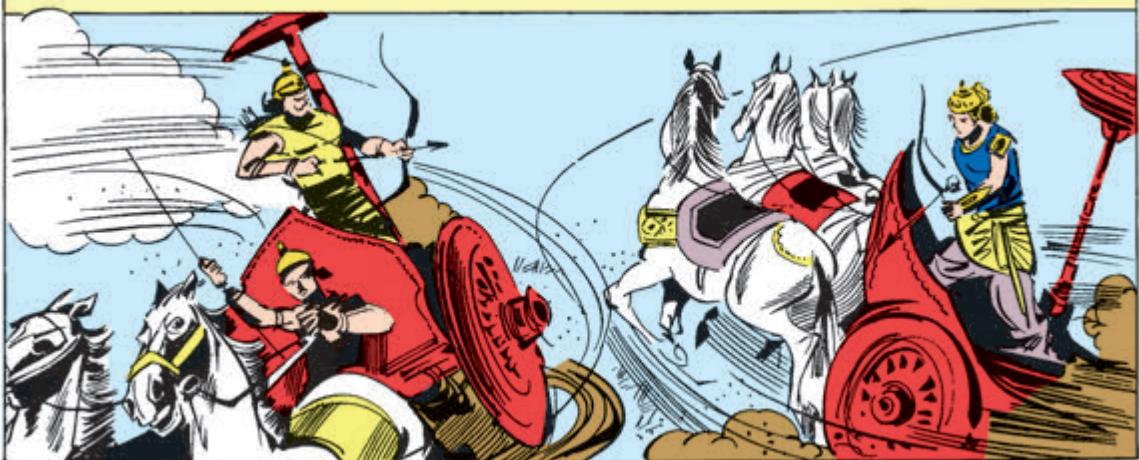
DURYODHANA, WHO OVERHEARD THIS REMARK, BECAME VERY ANGRY.

DUHSHASANA! LISTEN! HOW PARTIAL DRONACHARYA IS TOWARDS ARJUNA'S SON. WE MUST KILL THE BOY SOON.

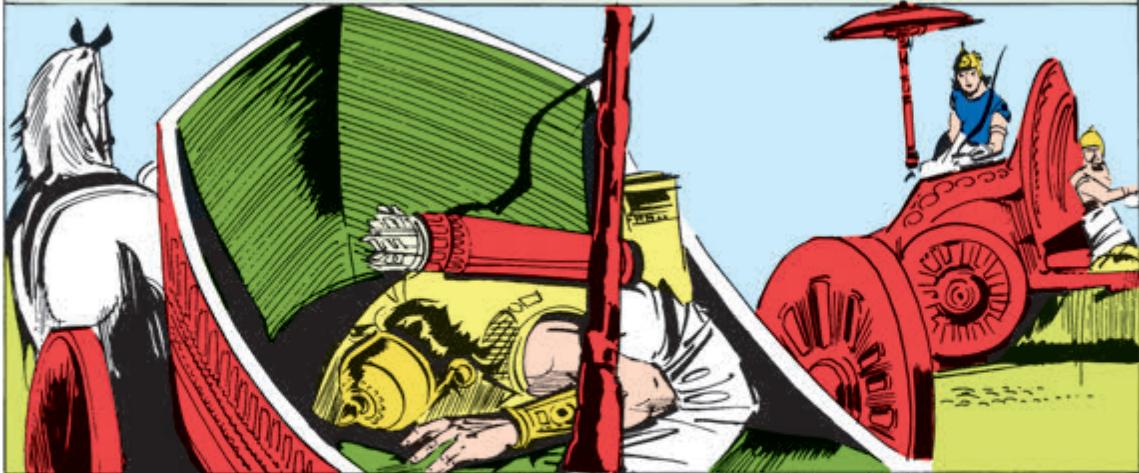
I'LL KILL HIM. THIS VERY INSTANT.



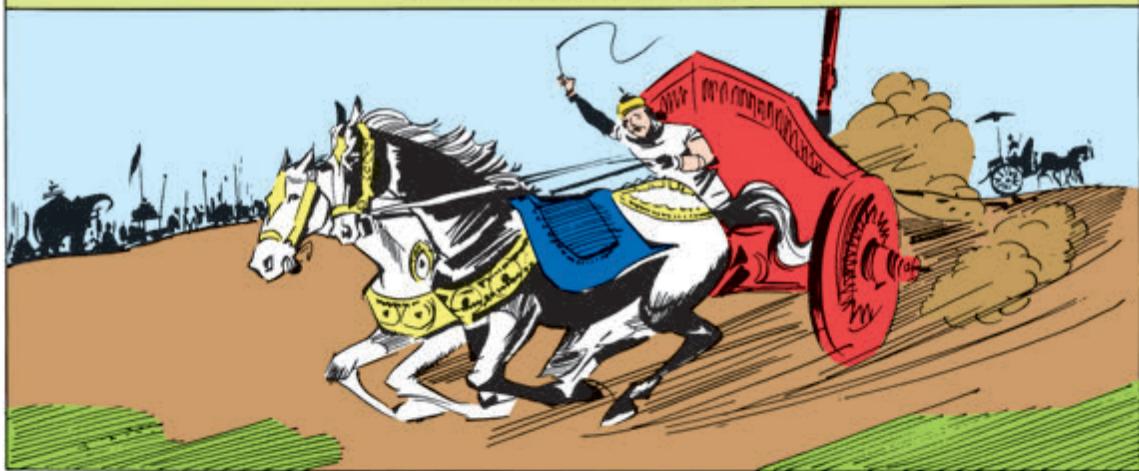
THE CHARIOTS OF ABHIMANYU AND DUHSHASANA MADE WONDERFUL MOVEMENTS AGAINST EACH OTHER.



VERY SOON, DUHSHASANA FELL SENSELESS IN HIS CHARIOT, STRUCK BY ONE OF ABHIMANYU'S ARROWS.



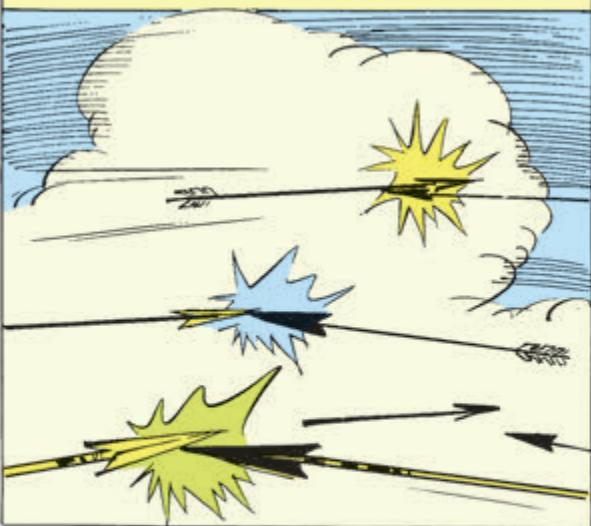
DUHSHASANA'S CHARIOTEER RUSHED AWAY FROM THE BATTLE SCENE TO SAVE HIS MASTER.



IT WAS NOW KARNA'S TURN. HE SENT A SHOWER OF ARROWS.



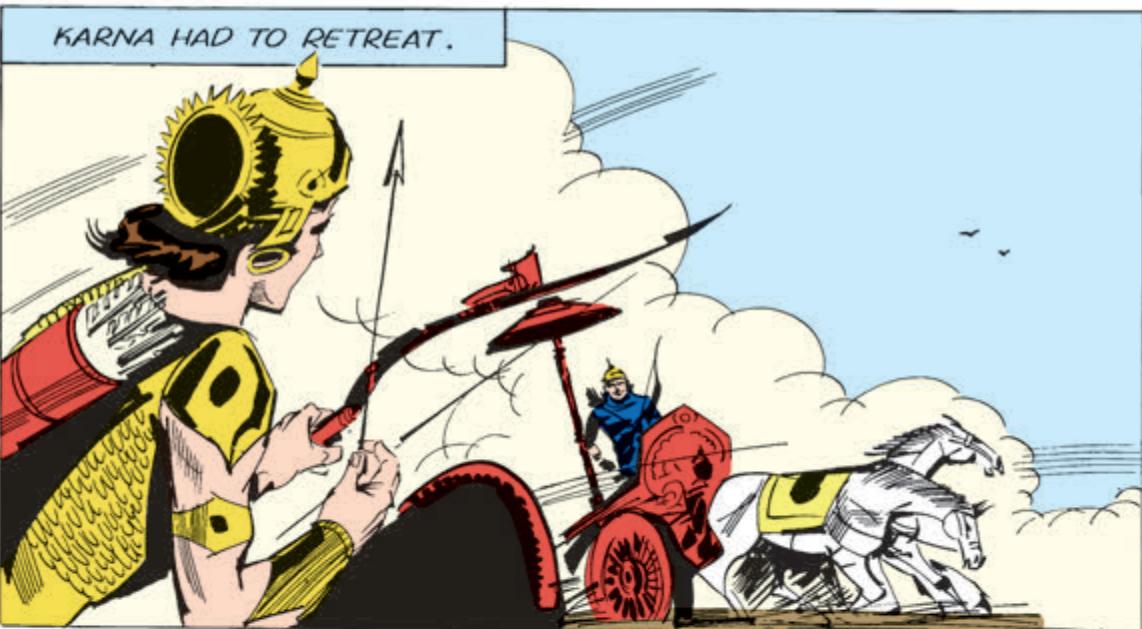
ABHIMANYU INTERCEPTED THEM ALL.



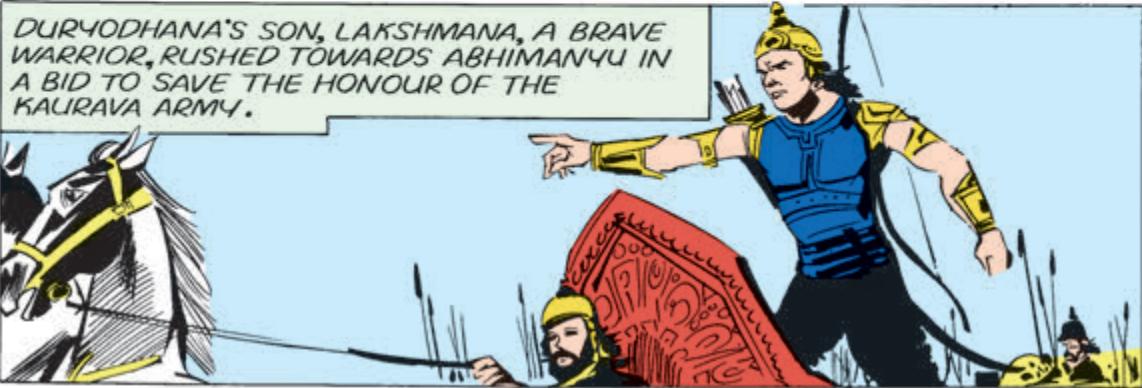
AND SENT A FRESH SHOWER OF ARROWS IN THE DIRECTION OF KARNA.



KARNA HAD TO RETREAT.



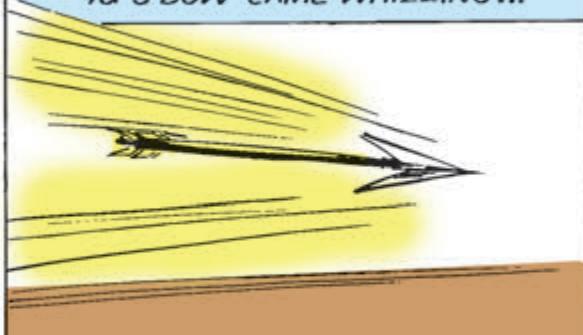
DURYODHANA'S SON, LAKSHMANA, A BRAVE WARRIOR, RUSHED TOWARDS ABHIMANYU IN A BID TO SAVE THE HONOUR OF THE KAURAVA ARMY.



KARNA, DRONA AND MANY OTHER RETREATING WARRIORs, NOW CAME BACK TO SUPPORT LAKSHMANA IN HIS FIGHT.



BUT A SHARP ARROW FROM ABHIMANYU'S BOW CAME WHIZZING ...



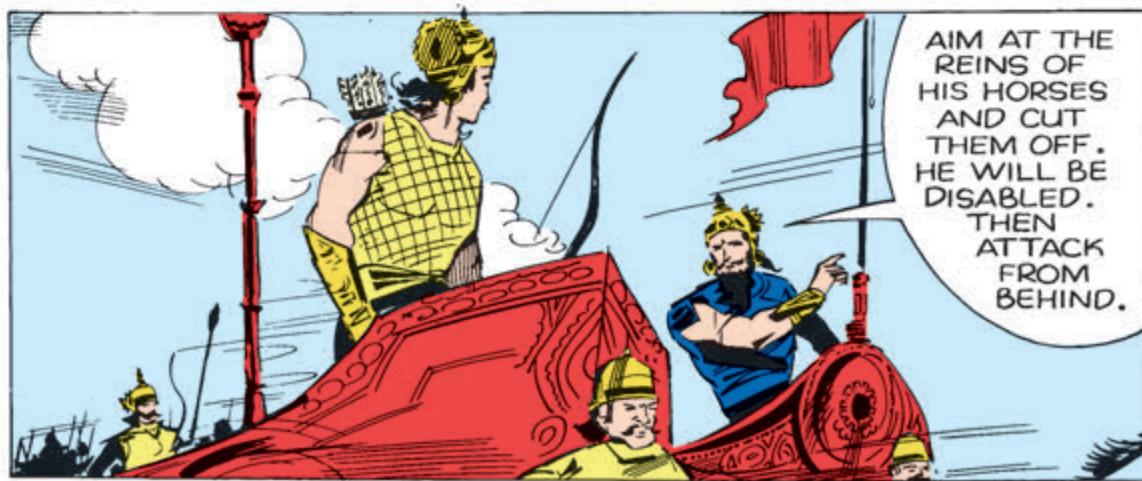
...AND PIERCED LAKSHMANA.



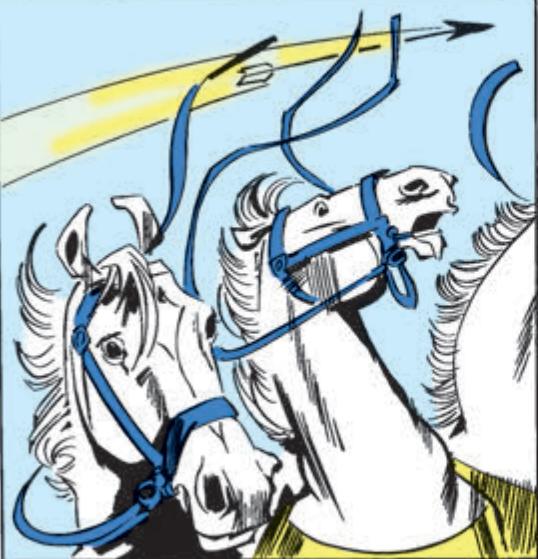
SEEING THE DEAD BODY OF HIS YOUNG SON, DURYODHANA WAS FURIOUS.



AT THIS COMMAND OF DURYODHANA, DRONA, KARNA AND THE OTHER WARRIOR IN THE KAURAVA ARMY MOUNTED A FRESH ATTACK ON ABHIMANYU.



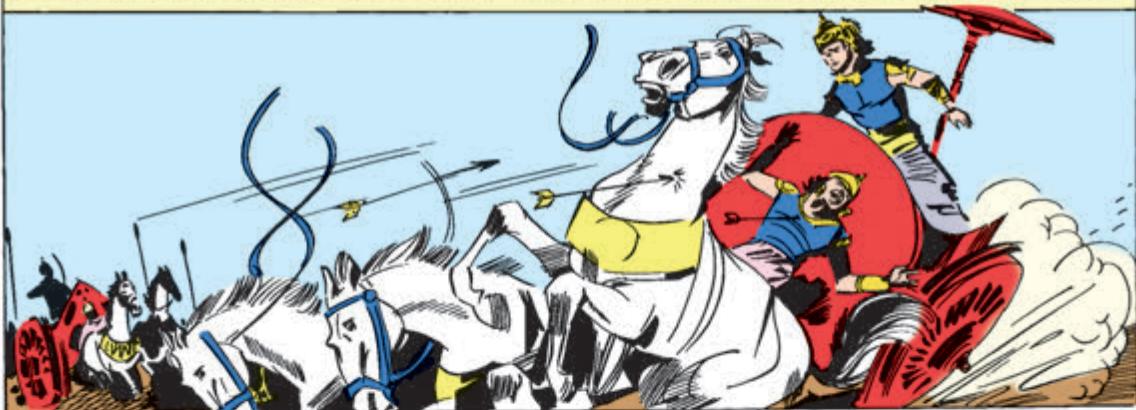
KARNA CUT OFF THE REINS OF HIS HORSES.



FROM BEHIND, HE SHOT AN ARROW THAT BROKE ABHIMANYU'S BOW.



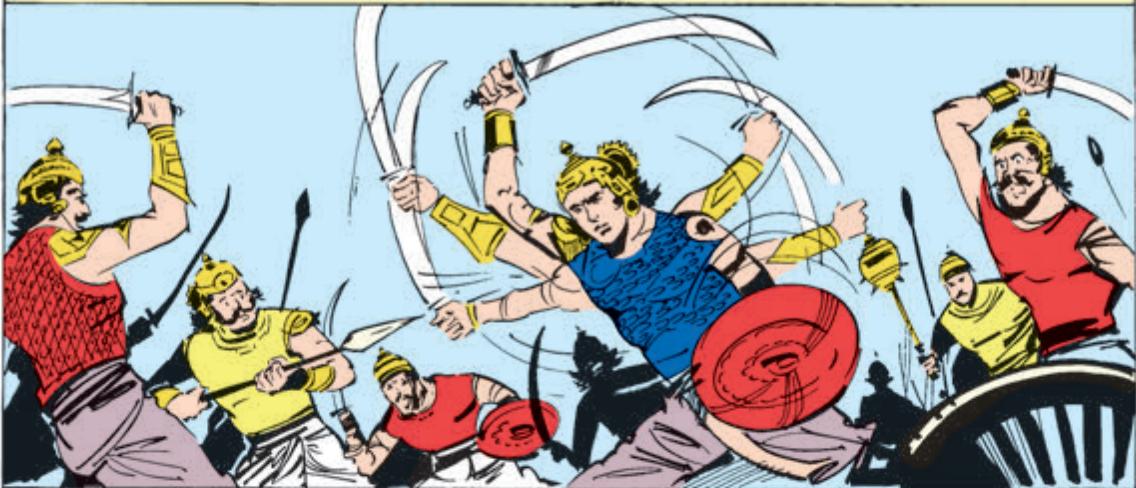
SOON ABHIMANYU'S HORSES LAY DEAD AND HIS CHARIOTEER WAS KILLED.



NOW HE JUMPED TO THE GROUND AND...



...WHIRLED HIS SWORD AND SHIELD. ALONE IN THE FIELD,  
HE HELD HIS GROUND AGAINST MANY WARRIOR.



SOON AN ARROW FROM DRONA  
BROKE HIS SWORD...



...AND AN ARROW FROM KARNA  
HIS SHIELD.



THUS ABHIMANYU WAS TOTALLY DISABLED, BUT UNDAUNTED, HE PICKED UP THE WHEEL OF HIS CHARIOT...



...AND BEGAN WHIRLING IT AGAINST HIS UNFAIR AND UNJUST ENEMIES. BUT HE WAS COMPLETELY ENCIRCLED.



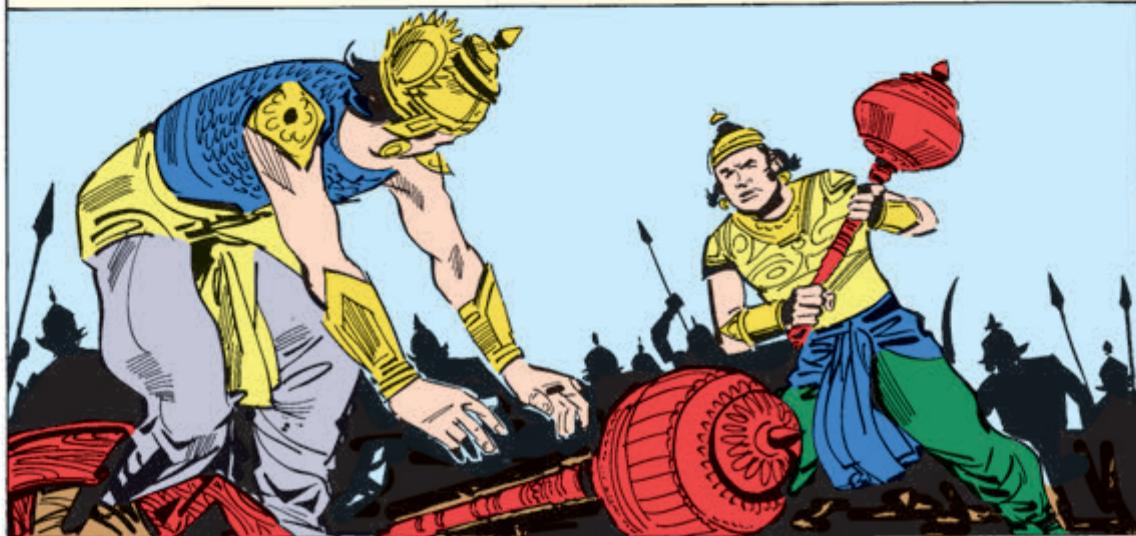
ARROWS FROM MANY BOWS CAME WHIZZING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS.



AND SOON THE WHEEL LAY BROKEN TO PIECES.



ABHIMANYU THEN PICKED UP A MACE THAT WAS LYING ON THE FIELD.



DUHSHASANA'S SON CLOSED IN.



WHILE FIGHTING  
BOTH FELL TO THE GROUND.



BUT DUHSHASANA'S SON WAS  
THE FIRST TO GET UP.



AND BEFORE ABHIMANYU COULD RISE, HE BROUGHT THE MACE DOWN ON HIS SKULL.



WHEN THE MIGHTY HERO FELL, LIKE SAVAGES THE KAURAVA WARRIOR DANCED AROUND HIS DEAD BODY.



NOT ONE OF THEM, HOWEVER, OUTLIVED THE WAR. ARJUNA, BHEEMA AND THE MIGHTY PANDAVAS AVENGED ABHIMANYU BY KILLING THEM ALL IN THE BATTLES THAT FOLLOWED AT KURUKSHETRA ...



... AND ABHIMANYU'S BRAVERY IS REMEMBERED TILL THIS DAY.

## WHICH OF THE ACKS HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

<b>EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY</b> <i>Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas</i>			
Abhimanyu	Tales Of Shiva	Swami Chinmayananda	Baladitya And Yashodharma
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Konark			Raja Raja Chola
Krishna			Rana Kumbha
Krishna And Jarasandha			Rana Pratap
Krishna And Narakasura			Rana Sanga
Krishna And Rukmini			Rani Abbakka
Krishna And Shishupala			Rani Durgavati
Krishna And The False Vaasudeva			Rani Of Jhansi
Kubera			Ranjit Singh
Kumbhakarna			Rash Bihari Bose
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Pareekshit			Shalivahana
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Purushottam Dev And Padmavati			Sultana Razia
Rama			Surjya Sen
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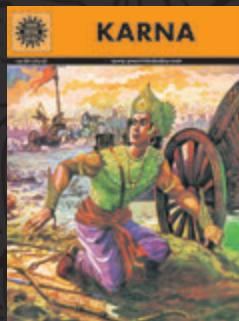


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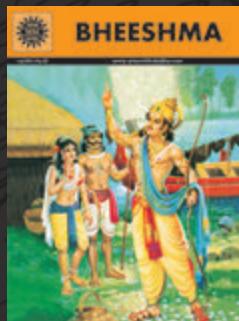
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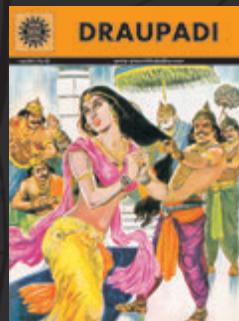
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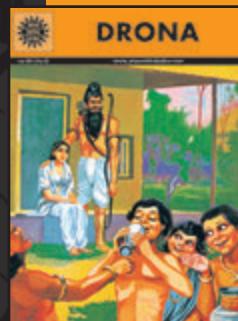
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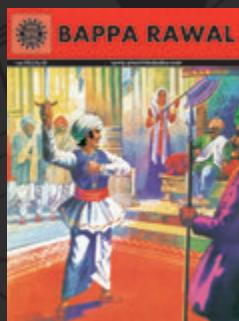


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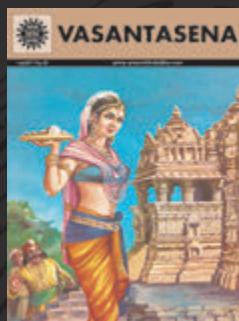


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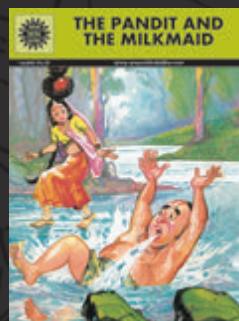
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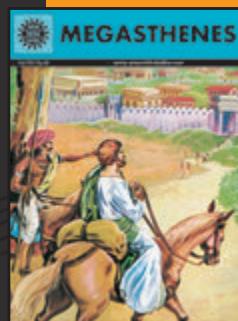
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